

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ISSUANCE OF A GENERAL PERMIT FOR AQUATIC NUISANCE PLANT AND ALGAE CONTROL

Introduction: On June 13, 2002, Ecology issued a new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit for application of herbicides to control aquatic plants and algae in surface waters of Washington State. This permit will take effect on July 5, 2002. The proposed permit implements the Federal Clean Water Act. The purpose of the permit is to control the discharge of herbicides that become waste after treatments to control aquatic plants and algae in waters of the state.

Summary of Public Involvement Process: Notice of the proposed permit was published in the state register and posted on the Internet. Notice included an invitation to provide public comment on the proposed permit. Revisions were made to the permit as a result of the comments received during the formal public comment period. A summary of Ecology's response to the comments is available on the Internet or upon request at the address below.

Permit Coverage: This general permit covers aquatic nuisance plant and algae control activities that discharge herbicides or algaecides directly or indirectly into surface waters of the state of Washington. It also covers indirect algae control through addition of aluminum sulfate to control phosphorus.

"Indirect Application" in this permit means application of glyphosate to emergent vegetation for the control of nuisance or noxious vegetation along public highways or in constructed or mitigated wetlands containing wetted surface at the time of application or which will contain wetted surface during the life of the active component of the herbicide.

Weed control activities with herbicides conducted on seasonally dry land surfaces where the bio-available active ingredient does not persist at time of water return are not required to be covered under this permit.

Appeal Procedures: Pursuant to RCW 43.21.B.310 the terms and conditions of the permit may be appealed on or before July 15, 2002. An appeal must be filed with the Pollution Control Hearings Board, P.O. Box 40903, Olympia, Washington, 98504-0903. In addition, a copy of this appeal must be served on the Department of Ecology, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7600. The procedures and requirements for the appeal process are contained in RCW 43.21.B.310.

The terms and conditions of a general permit, as they apply to an individual discharger, are appealable within 30 days of the effective date of coverage of that discharger, in accordance with chapter 43.21B RCW. This appeal is limited to the general permit's applicability or nonapplicability to a specific discharger.

Apply for Coverage or Obtain Additional Information:

| | |
|--|--|
| Kathleen Emmett | Phone: (360) 407-6478 |
| Water Quality Program | FAX: (360) 407-6426 |
| Washington State Department of Ecology | e-mail: kemm461@ecy.wa.gov |
| PO Box 47600 | |
| Olympia, WA 98504-7600 | |

Ecology is an equal opportunity agency. If you have special accommodation needs or require

this document in an alternative format, please contact Donna Lynch at (360) 407-7529 or TDD (only) - (360) 407-6006.